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The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine.

VOL. I.

OCTOBER, 1900.

No. 4.

PAPERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL OF SAFETY
OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN SOUTH
CAROLINA, JUNE-NOVEMBER, 1775.

[Continued from the July number.]

[51.]

To the Honible Council of Safety

The Petition of a number of the inhabitants of St Johns
Parish Berkley County
Sheweth,

That your Petitioners are willing to hazard their lives in
defence of the liberties of this Colony, and would gladly
have observed the recommendation of the Congress in learning
the use of Arms and being properly prepared for the purpose
aforesaid : But that they lie under the disadvantage of not
having officers who give proper attendance and instruc-
tion. —

We therefore request the Council of Safety would indulge
us by granting Commissions to the following Gentlemen
upon whose Conduct, courage, and abilities we have the
utmost reliance Viz. Job Marion, Rich^d Gough, and Elias
Ball Jun^r. —

St Johns parish Sept 2^d 1775

John proost	David Campbell	Elishe Tamplett
Lewis Farill	John Geo ^r Bird	Peter Campbell
	John M ^c Cullogh	Thos. Wesberry
	Thomas Butler	Tho ^s Hooeks---
	And ^w Campbell	Isaac Osborn---
	Tho ^s Broughton	Nath ^l Brantley
	Walter Welsh	Alex ^r Broughton
	Thomas Commander	Daniel Ross
	Tho ^s . Rivers	Luis David Brindly
	Robert =	Sam ^l Richardson
	Kennedy	Benj Lewis—
	Isaac Ball	Josh ^h Bossly
	John Smith—	

Endorsed: Petition from Militia
 St John's Berkley
 County Considered
 12 Sept^r 1775⁴⁷

[52.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO LT. COL. ISAAC MOTTE.]

Sir.—

We have already written to you this Evening to which we refer observing that instead of 150. mentioned in our Letter the reinforcement is to be 250 Rank & File—

Lient^t Walter has just delivered us your Letter of this date $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 oClock—in consequence of which we have hastened Capt Cochran, & applied to Coll^o Moultrie, to embark the intended reinforcement together with provisions & other necessary articles as Spcedily as possible & we flatter our selves with hopes that the whole will reach you before Mid-night & that you will be able to Mount some of the heaviest

⁴⁷ From the private collection of A. S. Salley, Jr. See *The Sunday News* March 12, 1899.

Cannon before Daylight—We have such confidence in you as to leave us no room to doubt your making a brave defence in case of an attack, & we are persuaded that you will do every thing that prudence will warrant to repel any force which may be brought against you.

We refer to Coll^o Moultrie more particu^r direction & heartily wish you success.

By order of the Council of Safety

Charles Town

15. Septem 1775—

Friday Night 9 oClock P.

Coll^o Motte

Endorsed: 2^d Answer to Coll^o Motte
15 Septem 1775.

[53.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON.]

Charles Town 15. Septem. 1775.

Sir.—

Moses Kirkland came into Charles Town on Monday late in the Evening & disguised, repaired immediately to the Governor at whose House he was accomodated with a Bed & from whence he embarked on Tuesday Morning in the Tamar's Boat & got safe on board, that Man of War—these facts the General Committee were informed of on Wednesday—the Committee Examined a young Man one Bailey Chaney who was said to have accompanied Kirkland & amidst heaps of shuffling & prevarication they collected enough to confirm not only their belief of Kirkland's being actually on board the Man of War but also that His Excellency held a correspondence with our Enemies of a very different nature from that which he had endeavoured by various arts to represent to us as the true motive of his writing to Fletchal & others of that party, in order however to obtain more

satisfactory proofs some of the Gentlemen of the Army by a stratagem which succeeded to their wish procured such from his own Mouth as were indubitable, the particulars of which we shall inclose & refer you to—hence-forward we can depend upon this Gentleman only as upon one who under the guise of neutrality & even pretended friendship is devoted to work our destruction—tis not improbable he will of his own Accord soon leave the Colony, if he has any feelings he must do so in preference to being looked in the Face by Gentlemen whom he has deceived & by whom he has been so clearly detected—be that as it may we judged it proper to send a party of men under the Command of Coll^o Motte to take possession of Fort Johnson which was effected before day light this morning & the Garrison consisting of the impudent Gunner Walker & four other men made prisoners—but Coll^o Motte reports that the Governor who was at the Fort yesterday had ordered a party of sailors on shore from the Tamar & by their means thrown the Cannon off the lower Battery & destroyed many of the Carriages

This moment your Packet dated 11th Inst by the hands of Fields Pardue was delivered to us—We approve of the measures you have taken & you may clearly perceive that even in instances where you have not been altogether clear & explicit in your advices we have imputed the deficiency to the right Cause & put the most favourable construction on all your Acts. Kirkland has eluded all your schemes, but we will not yet think him out of our Reach tis possible we may still bring him to answer for his misdeeds—his Companions Robinson, Brown & Cuninghams we hope will be taken or driven out of the Colony by you.

16th Septem. last night a packet arrived from Capt Pearis who was at Congaree with four Cherokees who were waiting for you—M^r Pearis laments your delay, represents the anxiety of the Indians & fears bad consequences will follow if they should return without seeing you or some person to Talk to them in your stead—this appears to be a matter of

great moment & will require your immediate attention—we need not inform you of the contempt in which Indians hold the man who deceives them & they scarcely know a difference & never will make the distinction when their friendship is Courted, between, disappointment & deceit—Cameron too will exult & repeat his slanders, we therefore recommend this business to your most serious attention.

last night also the Governor who was on board the man of War sent Capt Innes to demand at Fort Johnson—

What Troops are in the Fort ?

Ans ? American Troops.

who Commands them ?

Ans. By what Authority do you ask it ?

{ By the Governors.
the Governor desires to know by what Authority you
took possession of this Fort ?

Ans. By the express Command of the Council of Safety ?—

The man of War & Cherokee Guard ship are nevertheless still at Anchor in the Road We have reinforced the Garrison by an addition of 250 Rank & File—some volunteers are gone down & we have hopes that by this hour Coll^l Motte has remounted his Cannon, Carriages & other necessary articles having been sent for that purpose before midnight—

the Swallow Packet arrived three days ago the Letters were long detained & we learn in general that the King & Administration are determined to reinforce Gen. Gage & also to throw Troops into all the Colonies—

We repeat our good wishes for your health & continued success—

By order of the Council of Safety

H L

Presid^t

P. S.

I have paid the express £25.

send by him 12 Association papers

two Quires of writing paper


a letter from Mr Middleton

this will be sealed first by a Wafer

the cover by a Wafer & Wax & my Cypher

plainly impressed on both—

H L

 a Letter from Mr C Drayton

ad with the above but not inclosed

it came after that was sealed—

Endorsed: Copy of a Letter 15 & 16

Septem 1775 to W H

Drayton—by

[54.]

[DANIEL DE SAUSSURE TO HENRY LAURENS.]

Addressed:

To

Colonel Henry Laurens Esquire

⌘ favour Mr }
Tebout— }

Charles Town

Beaufort 17th Septem^r 1775.

Sir

Inclosed you have a Return of the Subscribers to the Association, there are a few that have not yet signed owing to their Residence on Remote Islands in the Parish & have not been at either places when sent about to be signed, but we know their Chearfullness in the Common Cause—Mr Leechmer, our Collector, is the only person that has Refused to sign, but he has given the Committee proper assurances—they could wish to have a Line from the Committee of Entelligence Respecting Mr Shaw.—

I am with Esteem.

Sir

Your obed^t servant

D.: DeSaussure

Endorsed: Dan Desaussure
17 Sept^r 1775.
Rec^d 25th Report^d same
day—

[55.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA DELEGATES TO
CONGRESS.]

Charles Town So Carolina
18 Septem 1775

Gentlemen—

As we have business of very great importance to lay before you, which we think will merit the consideration of the Representatives of the United Colonies we are fortunate in meeting with the present opportunity for its conveyance by M^r Hindson who has promised not only to deliver our dispatches into your own hands but also to communicate a verbal message which cannot be so well imparted in any other manner.

Recent transactions of a most dangerous tendency in the interior parts of this Colony, the treachery of our Governor who has been pursuing the Steps of M^r Martin nearly as his situation would allow him, our late intelligence respecting the Indians & the unhappy differences which now subsist among the Inhabitants of Charles Town render this application for your advice & assistance absolutely indispensable. We had for some time entertained suspicions of the conduct of L. Wm. Campbell, but a late circumstance has furnished us with positive proof of his disengenuity & intention to undo us by stealth. His Lordship had not only shown a fair face when waited upon, but had in the most condescending terms invited Gentlemen to call on him in order to give him opportunity for expressing his good wishes to the Colony while he was at the same time privately spiriting up the people on our Frontiers to oppose our Association & to hold themselves in readiness to act in Arms against the Colony.—

after having received reiterated accounts of the increasing discontents of those people, together with assurances that they were instigated by the Emissaries of the British Administration & supported by the promises of Royal favour, this Council judged it expedient to send proper persons to explain to them, the causes & nature of the dispute subsisting between Great Britain & the Colonies to endeavour to reconcile their minds to an Union in defence of their common rights; for these good purposes The Honble. Mr Drayton & the Reverend Mr Tennent were sent into those parts where the disaffected were most powerful & most numerous & although their progress has been attended with many salutary effects yet particular characters and their abettors continued so irrectionable that it was found necessary to abandon the mild modes of persuasion & to have recourse to the use of Arms which they had first taken up—we have now 1200. men of the Regiment of Rangers & Militia under the direction of Mr Drayton at Ninety Six we hope he will be able to suppress all opposition or at least to drive away the ring leaders of it.—among the head of our opponents was Capt Moses Kirkland who may with great justice be denominated a Traitor.—he had actually taken a Commission in the service of the Colony, & had enlisted a Company of Rangers whom he afterward incited to Mutiny & Desert. this Man after having threatened the destruction of Augusta & Recapture of Fort Charlotte in vain attempted to make a stand with his adherents & being closely pursued fled in disguises to Charles Town, which he entered by night took sanctuary in the Governor's House & was by His Lordship's means conveyed on board the Tamar Sloop of War.—a report of this fact was soon brought to the Gen Committee which happened to be sitting & a discovery was made of a person who had been one of Kirkland's Company of Rangers & had attended him in his flight, this person being Committed to the Guard was made use of by some of the Officers of our Troops to carry on a stratagem the result of

which you will learn from one of the inclosed papers marked “ Minutes of a Conversation.” The Committee upon this discovery demanded a sight of the Letters which the Governor had just received from Administration by the Swallow Packet, His Lordship peremptorily refused to comply but in the course of conversation acknowledged that Ships & Troops were to be sent from England to all the Colonies & might be shortly expected; the next Evening he gave orders for dismantling Fort Johnson which was in part performed by men from on board the Tamar who dismounted all the Guns on the lower Battery & broke many of the Carriages, after which His Excellency dissolved the Assembly & without assigning any reason in public, retired on board that Man of War where he has ever since remained & from certain circumstances we believe he means to remove his family to the same place.—fortunately the Seamen neglected to spike the Cannon, we have therefore taken possession of the Fort & remounted them—the Garrison now consists of about 400. of our new raised Troops commanded there by Coll^o Motte we intend to persevere in repairing the Fort & will put it in the best posture of defence. we also intend to fortify the Harbour as effectually as our circumstances will admit of—tis possible the Man of War may interrupt our proceedings, in such Case we shall be under a necessity of attempting to take or destroy her.—here we are at a loss to know to what lengths each Colony will be warranted by the Voice of America in opposing & resisting the King’s Officers in general & the British Marine, tho’ such opposition should be necessary for the very existence of a Colony & support of the Common Cause.—

Our Provincial Congress in June last Resolved that Officers in the two Regiments of Foot in Colony Pay should when acting in Conjunction with Officers of the Militia of equal Commissions take Rank & precedence of these without regard to dates of Commissions—this Regulation gave no Umbrage till lately, when we judged it necessary to Issue an Order

for compelling many delinquents to do equal duty with their fellow Citizens in the Militia *then* a general Clamour was raised, petitions & Remonstrances from the "12 United Companies" of Volunteers were sent in, to this Board & to the General Committee & the dispute was carried to so great a height as to threaten an overthrow of our Association, temperate measures have however pacified many of the well meaning honest people who had been misled by the contrivances of false friends, nevertheless there remains no inconsiderable degree of ferment & dissatisfaction—to this untoward circumstance add, the unfavorable accounts which we have received from the Indians, the danger which we are always exposed to & more especially at this time from domestic Insurrection the expectation of British Troops & Ships of War with other incidents hereafter to be mentioned & you will agree that we have before us a very unpleasant prospect. We have been informed that you have granted 1000. Men to North Carolina on Acco^t of the disturbances in that Colony, be that as it may surely we in this weaker part stand more in need of an Army of Observation & General Officers to Command all our forces, at the general charge of the Colonies; we would if time had permitted have applied to North Carolina & Georgia to have joined us in an application for such an Army, & we now recommend it to your serious consideration & enjoin you to Address the General Congress upon this subject & to use your endeavors for obtaining such defence for us, without which Carolina & Georgia will be involved in such difficulties as may & probably will greatly injure the common Interests of America. We particularly request you to consider of proper measures for Regulating the Militia & to procure a strong recommendation on this head from the Congress.—

the Judges have refused to do business in their department, hence the Courts are shut up, the Custom House may soon follow the example & we rather suspect it from an application which Mr. Haliday has made for leave to retire from the

province altho' he has assured us that he will leave a Deputy. We have used our utmost endeavours & gone to very great expence for procuring ammuniton, we were stimulated to the Act upon Lofthouse's Vessel at Agustine Bar by our hearty desire to supply the common Stock on your side, we rejoice to learn that you now have abundance we have also in our Magazines enough to serve our present purposes & no bad prospect of receiving additional quantities very speedily—but none to spare—Nothing would be more acceptable to us than two or three thousand stand of good Arms is it possible to obtain such & so many from Philadelphia? if it is, we recommend it as a most essential service—

Your letter of the 3^d August with Resolutions of the 1st came duly to hand, perhaps after a Post Office is established, the Congress will find it necessary to open the American ports to Foreigners & to pursue the most vigorous measures in our Infant state, by Sea as well as Land neither of which in our opinion can be effected if the Doctrine of abandoning our Sea Coasts should prevail.—& We

We must not concluded without intreating you to consider of proper measures for keeping the Militia in due subordination & procuring a strong recommendation, on this head from the Congress.⁴⁸——By order of the Council of Safety.

Henry Middleton

Henry Laurens.

Thomas Lynch

President.

Chris. Gadsden

John Rutledge

Ed. Rutledge Esquires, Delegates for So Carolina

in General Congress Philad.

× We have just received a private information that Moses Kirkland is to be put on board this Sloop after she is over the Bar—he is to proceed to General Gage & apply for Men & Ammunition to enable him to recover his ground & to distress us in the back Country—We have laid a plan for having him safely landed at George Town if that should fail,

⁴⁸ This last sentence is scratched out.

the Committee or Council of Safety at New York will be informed of his arrival & of his intended Schemes we hope in such case they will detain him for your directions & that you will give such as shall put it out of his power to do us any further mischief—to return him to Carolina in order to be tried by a Court Martial will be best.—Inclosed you will find a Copy of our late Order concerning the Militia

Endorsed: Copy 18th Septem 1775
To The Delegates of S^c
Carolina

[56.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE COMMITTEE FOR SAXE GOTHA
TOWNSHIP.]

Charles Town. 19 Septem. 1775.

Gentlemen,

The business contained in your Letter of the 29th Ult^o which reached me 17 days ago came properly before the General Committee to whom I presented it at their first meeting after it came to hand, when it was to have been taken under consideration some affairs of great importance happened to intervene & their attention was diverted which occasioned another whole Weeks delay—at a late meeting the Committee ordered a proper number of Printed Advertisements to be sent to you & the day for the intended Election was ordered to be left blank in order that you might insert a Day most convenient to the public but the printer has by his own authority or by mistake inserted Saturday the 7th October as you will see by the Inclosed Resolution 24 Copies of which will be under cover with this—if that will be an improper time you may easily alter the Date with a pen.—

The public have taken Fort Johnson into their hands & Garrisoned it with 400 men—the Governor without assigning any public reason is gone on board the Tamar man of War,

the General Committee have recommend to the Council of Safety the immediate fortifying of the Harbour of Charles Town—tis more than possible that Moses Kirkland will be in the hands of his Country men within forty days—We have room to expect pacific propositions suddenly from Great Britain on the contrary Ships of War & Troops are destined for the Harbours & Towns all along the Continent & no doubt we shall receive a due proportion—if the number should be proportioned to our own provocations we shall not have the fewest.—I am with great regard

Gentlemen

Your most obedient servt

Committee for Saxe Gotha

Endorsed: Answer to the Saxe Gotha
Commee. 19 Septem 1775.

[57.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO CAPT. HINDSON.]

Charles Town. 19th Septem. 1775

Sir—

Inclosed is the Packet for the Delegates from South Carolina at Philadelphia which we mentioned to you yesterday we recommend it to your special care to be delivered into the hands of one of those Gentlemen—

Touching Moses Kirkland we refer to our late conversation on that subject generally & have now to add that we will indemnify Capt Little if you shall find it necessary to go into George Town to deliver him to the Committee there with special orders to hold him in safe Custody till delivered to us—we will pay any reasonable sum for loss of time & Insure the sloop together with such reward as you may agree to give & as this is a matter which almost equally concerns all the Colonies we hope Capt Little will not hesitate. We

heartily wish you a good voyage & thank you for your good disposition towards us—By order of the Council
of Safety

Capt Hindson

Endorsed: Copy 19 Septem 1775
to Capt Hindson

[58.]

[Copy of a letter written by John Stuart, Indian Agent for the Southern Provinces of America, to Messrs Mc Kay & Mc Lean. The letter was intercepted by the Georgia Council of Safety and a copy thereof forwarded to the South Carolina Council of Safety.]

St Augustine 30th August 1775.

Mess^{rs} Mc Kay & Mc Lean,
Gentlemen,

I wrote M^r Andrew Mc Lean by post the 12th Inst^t acknowledging the receipt of his Letters from Savannah, & acquainting him that I had written to M^r John Inglis concerning the small sum in Carolina paper which I had left in his hands, viz^t £89—Caro^a Curr^y and 40/ Georgia, to be exchanged for Gold—but M^r Inglis writes me that M^r Mc Lean had forgot to mention it to him.—As the seizure of your Gun powder must be a great disappointment, & might be attended with bad consequences, as the jealousies of the Indians must be greatly excited by being cut off from their usual supplies of Ammunition—to prevent which, as far as in my power, I have prevailed with Governor Tonym to lend me some, which I wish to divide equally between the Creeks & the Cherokees, but horses are wanting—the quantity is 3000^{lb} & Bullets in proportion, which will require 30 Horses for each Nation—this may be of some service to you, as your Traders are not supplied, so I wish to hear from you immediately—& I think this supply, with what I am informed the Committee has sent will be sufficient for the purposes of hunting, &

defence against their Enemies, and convince them that we have nothing hostile in meditation against them.

Thomas Carr arrived here three days ago, by whom I received Mr Mc Leans Letter, & those inclosed in it. I have enabled Mr Penman to supply Carr with 150 lb of Gun powder & 300^{lb} Ball.—The Cusseta King's Brother came with him, & brought me a Talk, to which I send an answer, so I hope to keep the Indians quiet.

The new Superintendants have been sending Talks to the Nation, & have acquainted the Indians that my death was determined upon—They are ungrateful, but I shall endeavor to return good for evil. I have not time to enlarge being hurried, so I conclude with assurances of my being sincerely,

Gentlemen,

Yr, Mr obt^h l^t Sev^t

Signed—John Stuart.

The foregoing is a true Copy of an original intercepted Letter lodged in the Council of Safety.—

Certified by

Seth Jn^o Cuthbert, Sec^y

Endorsed by Cuthbert: Copy of Letter to Mess^{rs} Mc Kay and Mc Lean—at Augusta

Endorsed by Henry Laurens: John Stuart 30 Aug^t
1775—to Mc Kay &
Mc Lean
Read in Council & Gen
Commce—19 Septem

Pay Bill of Capt Heatley's Company in The Regiment of Rangers commanded by William Thomson
Esq: up to the 20th of Sept: 1775. Inclusive⁴⁹

[59.]

Names of Officers, nonCom = mission officers & Privates	Dates of Commissions & Attestations	Time in Service—	Amount
Capt Chs Heatley.....	12 Augst 1775.....	39 days @ £3., 10/.....	136 10 0
1st Lieut Richd Brown	13 Sept: 1775	7 Days @ 45/.....	15 15 0
2 Lieut Fras Taylor	12 Do: Do	8 Days @ 45	18 00 0
Edward Leger... } Sergts	15th Augst 1775.....	1 Month & 5 days @ £25 p: Month.....	29 3 4
Alexr Mc Kenney }	15" Do "	Do & D a Do	29 3 4
John Sarginor.....	15" Do "	Do & D a £. 20 p: Do	23 4 8
John Siders.....	15" Do "	Do & D a	23 4 8
Phos Burdell	15" Do "	Do & D a	23 4 8
Daniel Wooton.....	18" Do "	Do & D a	21 6 8
John Rottin.....	20" Do "	Do	20 " "
John Wootan.....	20" Do "	Do	20 " "
William Lucas.....	20" Do "	Do	20 " "
George Coband.....	20" Do "	Do	20 " "
Petr Burns.....	20" Do "	Do	20 " "
William Parler	20" Do "	Do	20 " "
Isaac Vaughn	22" Do "	Do	18 " "
Joseph Williams.....	25" Do "	28 Days.....	16 13 4
Jno Killingsworth.....	25" Do "	Do	16 13 4
Soloman Flويد.....	26" Do "	Do	16 " "
Dennis Mc Carty.....	26" Do "	Do	16 " "
Chs Boiles.....	26" Do "	Do	16 " "
Wm Mc Graw	28" Do "	Do	14 13 4
Wm Runnalds.....	28" Do "	Do	14 13 4

⁴⁹ See Salley's History Orangeburg County, 1704-1782, pp. 418-19.

Andrew Mc Kelyy.....	29 ^a	Do.	"	21.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	14	"
Richd Person.....	29 ^a	Do.	"	21.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	14	"
Ormand Morgan.....	31 ^a	Do.	"	19.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	12	13 4
Benja Waide.....	31 ^a	Do.	"	19.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	12	13 4
William Thomas.....	1 st Sept	1775	"	18.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	12	"
Jno Mc Lain.....	1 st	Do.	"	18.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	12	"
Robt Crocket.....	2 ^a	Do.	"	17.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	11	6
James Hawkins.....	4 ^a	Do.	"	15.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	10	"
Joseph Trotter.....	4 ^a	Do.	"	15.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	10	"
Jno Glass.....	4 ^a	Do.	"	15.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	10	"
Joshua Glass.....	4 ^a	Do.	"	15.	Do.	.....	a	Do.	10	"
Jno Miller.....	1 st July	1775.....	}	From Polks Compy., ^s 2 months & 20 days ^a at £20.						50	"
James Crawford.....	1 st July	1775.....								50	"
									Carried Over £797, 12s 4d		£

^s See page 70 January issue of this Magazine. Salley's History Orangeburg County, 1704-1782, p. 414. Ibid, pp. 418-19.

[60.]

To Daniel Desausure Esq^e
 Pay to Mr Tunes Tebout the sum
 of thirteen Pounds 5 shillns for ferrege
 of the Cumpeney under My Command⁵¹
 Aug^t 18 : 1775

John Jenkins

Endorsed: Voucher for £147. 3
 Paid D. Desaussure
 20 Septem 1775.

[61.]

S^o Carolina }
 Ninety Six District. } Whereas by A Resolution of the
 provincial Congress such persons as
 incline are encouraged to form volunteer Company's, and
 allowed as soon as they are Collected to the number of thirty
 persons to Choose their own officers. We Subscribers have
 enterd into and united ourselves in one volunteer Company,
 and for our Officers have Chosen David Hunter for Captain
 Andrew Miller first Lieutenant James Stevenson Second
 Lieutenant to be Commissioned by the Honourable the
 Council of Safety as they shall see Cause. We therefore
 Humbly Recommend these Gentlemen to the Honourable
 William Henry Drayton in order to obtain Commissions, so
 as we may be ready for service when called upon. Sign'd
 this 18th Sept^r 1775
 Near Little River that Runs into Seveney

That the above named Gentlemen } Robert Miller
 were Chosen officers for the foresaid }
 Company in our presence Day Date }
 and place as above is attested by us } John Lawrence

⁵¹ This was a company of volunteer militia from St. Helena See
The Sunday News, Charleston, S. C., March 12, 1899.

[62.]

[EDMUND EGAN TO HENRY LAURENS.]

Addressed : To
Henry Laurens Esq^r.

Sir

I am Just returnd from Town where I heard enough of this day. they don't do me Justice Trayton I was a poor One, tho' I have not done no duty as a delegate, nor Could not, for untill it was I suspected no deceit, except in that of a General forgive me one word this day (I Care for nobody) have made an apology to M^r Cannon which I you will see, the intent of this my usual imprudence is to acquaint you that I was Confused at sight of your General Committee, I this day addressed M^r Weyman M^r Lockwood Trezevant and M^r Laurens as M^r Laurens, but I was at sight of the Assembly there was something Uncommon in their faces, tho all my friends; Confused, the last Motion I made in Our Military Meeting was that we should pray Council of Safety and General Committee to meet in a Collective body, and that the whole of us go wait on you in full body to have the prayer of petition Granted, M^r Logan Over ruled it sir if you think proper to order the whole officers from each Company to wait on your body in full assembly, You I believe have their names or I can Send them to you and the Characters of most of them regard must have awed me, a little must strike them, except two Barkers, Harris the Silver Smith & Byron a Clerk to Stoll & C^o. (Byron is honest the alarm only frightens him) Logan & Jamieson will only trouble you, Never forgive me if guilty of imprudence in this Cause except in Case of insult, and I beg you will now forgive one who retires Guiltless and free

Tuesday Night

Your humble Servant

19th Sept: 1775Edm^d Egan

If any thing I have Confusedly advanced this day should be denied, I beg the substance from you and shall produce an answer in Writing (I am no Orator) and I hope Witnesses ———

Endorsed: Edm^d Egan 19 Septr
1775. Read in Council
the 20th ⁵³

[64.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON.]

Charles Town 21st Septem. 1775

Sir—

We refer to our last dated the 15th by your messenger from Ninety Six which we hope has reached you & that you are now on your way to meet those Indians who led by Capt Pearis came from the Cherokees at your Command & who have in the utmost anxiety & impatience been many days waiting for you.—

We have Several Copies of interrupted Letters from the Superintendant at S^t Augustine to his Agents in the Nation they look so much like design to amuse us that we hold it unnecessary to trouble you with them but since you have entered upon that branch a Caution against every stratagem may not be unnecessary Pearis applies for a Commission to the Good Warrior if one is granted it must be special & you will be the best judge of the necessary terms we have therefore referred him to you.

Coll^o Wofford has likewise applied for Commissions in order to erect a whole Regiment in the Colony's service from Fletchall's district—for that purpose we send you 34

⁵³ From the private collection of A. S. Salley, Jr. See *The Sunday News*, Charleston, S. C., March 19, 1899. Egan had evidently not recovered from his confusion at the time he wrote this letter, and omitted certain words that were essential to the sense of the letter.

signed by us & blanks left for you to fill up you will keep a Copy of the names of Officers &c^o as formerly directed—

We are called together by an alarming account which threatens the destruction of this Town by three Frigates & a Bomb Ketch we hope it may prove a groundless report—but it becomes us to act instantly as if was real—We shall be glad to hear that you have established peace & quietness on our backs & of your outset for Charles Town as soon after as you please

By order of the Council

The Honble W H. Drayton

Endorsed: Copy to W H Drayton

21st should have been

the 20th

[65.]

Pay Bill of Captain Purvis's Company in the Regiment of Rangers commanded by William Thomson Esq: up to the 22^d Sept: 1775 inclusive

Names of Officers Non Commissioned officers and Privates	dates of new officers Com: missions & Attestations	Time of Pay being due	Amount
John Purves Captain.	21st June 1775.	31 days—a £3.10/	105—10
William Martin Lieutenant.	—1st Sept.	93 days—a 2.5/	209. 5
John Carraway Smith—ditto.	—1st Sept.	23 ditto—a 2.5/	49. 10
George Liddle—Serjeant.	19 August.	—1 Mo. 3 days a £25 p. Mo	—27., 10
David Bucks— ditto	—	—1 Mo.	—25—
William Skinner.	—	—1 Mo	—20—
Samuel Norwood Junior.	—	ditto.	—20
James Sexton.	—	dō	—20
Flud Mitchell.	—	dō	—20
William Mosely.	—	dō	—20
Theophilus Nawood.	—	dō	—20
John Jackson.	—	dō	—20
Peter Mc Mahan.	—	dō	—20
John Russel.	—	dō	—20
Thomas Hallum.	—	dō	—20
James Robinson.	—	dō	—20
John Warnock.	—	dō	—20
Michael Warnock.	—	dō	—20
Samuel Nelson.	—	dō	—20

John Pretter.....	do	.....	.....	.....	20	.....
James Mc Elwee	do	.....	.....	.....	20	.....
James Russel.....	do	.....	.....	.....	20	.....
John Jordan.....	do	.....	.....	.....	20	.....
Patrick Smilie.....	do	.....	.....	.....	20	.....
Arthur Sharbrow	do	.....	.....	.....	22	.....
Thomas Moore.....	19 Augt	.....	.....	.....	18,	4
Thomas Jackson.....	25 Augt	.....	28—days	.....	18,	.....
Robert Johnston.....	26—do	.....	27—days	.....	8,	.....
Patrick Morris.....	26—do	.....	27—do	.....	8,	.....
James Davelin.....	30—do	.....	23—do	.....	15,	8
John Anderson.....	do	.....	22—do	.....	13,,	4
James Martin.....	1 Sept	.....	22—do	.....	13,,	4
Edward Mc Kay.....	do	.....	22—do	.....	14,,	4
William Harbison.....	5—do	.....	17—do	.....	11,,	8,
William Colter.....	6—do	.....	16—do	.....	10,,	4
	do	.....	16—do	.....	13,,	4
				£ 948.	8.	4

John Purves maketh oath That the above is a just and true Bill of his company to the 22^d

Sept. 1775

Sworn to before me

Rich Brown

John Purves

Endorsed: Capⁿ John Purves's
Pay bill

[66.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE COMMITTEE AT BEAUFORT.]

Charles Town. 23. Septem. 1775—

Gentlemen

The delay of an answer to yours of the 18th U^{to} has been occasioned by our waiting for a plan & Estimate of the repairs necessary for your Fort Lyttleton which we requested Capt. Joiner to procure, but we have not yet received it, when we receive them we shall give that subject the consideration which is due to it.—

The present circumstances of this Colony renders it absolutely indispensable that we should detain the two Thousand Weight of Gun Powder which we had lodged under your protection for the order of the Council of Safety in Georgia & we desire you will not part with it until you hear further from us—we shall write to that Board at Savanna by the next mail & we flatter ourselves with hopes that no order will appear on you for said powder before we have obtained their concurrence be that as it may we request you not to part with it before we have interchanged another Letter on the subject—

As to the 400^l Powder which you detained pr your Chairman's Rect —we can only say that it added to 600^l formerly detained by Coll^o Bull, the amount by far exceeds a due proportion of the whole Colony Magazine compared with other parts of the Colony, but we make no doubt of your economy & strict watchfulness to prevent misapplication of any part of an article upon which our safety from attacks even by our domestic foes may so immediately depend, &c

Committee at Beaufort

Endorsed: Copy 23^d Septem 1775

To The Comee at Beaufort.

[67.]

[COL. STEPHEN BULL TO HENRY LAURENS.]

Beaufort. 19th of August 1775—

Sir

Yesterday I did myself the honor of writing to you as President of the Council of Safety, by Captain Lampriere who commanded the Schooner which has the Gun Powder on board, and in that Letter I would have been more full, had not the wind and tide suited for Captain Lampriere to sail immediately; but soon after they got under sail a thunder squal came up the River by which means the tide was lost; which has given me an opportunity of writing again by Captain Lampriere; in my last I mentioned that I should keep a sufficient number of men in this Town, untill the Powder was safely out of this River, which would have been in a few hours, had not the squal happend; as soon as the Vessels were under sail, I discharged a detachment from two Companies of Prince Williams Parish, where there were the fewest white men in proportion to the Domestics, with orders to proceed to their own homes or districts; but as soon as I found that Captain Lampriere had lost the tide and could not proceed I detain'd a number of other men so as to have one hundred & sixty of my Regiment, which added to the detachment of Provincials under Captain Cattles command, with the detachment of Grenadiers and Artillery from Charles Town amounting in all to two Hundred and fifty, a force which I thought would be sufficient for the intended service—these men I shall detain untill the Vessell with the Powder is out of this River, which I expect will be by one O'Clock, when I will discharge the men untill farther Orders—

With regard to your Recommendation of establishing a Company of Volunteers on Purysburg or Wrights neck, I could have no objection if there were a sufficient number of men, which matter was mention'd sometime ago by a Mr Bris-

bane to the Lieut^t Governor, who wrote me on the subject, and the reasons I gave him are still of force, for upon enquirey I found that there were not over five & twenty men in the boundaries they described, which were too far agreeable to the Resolution of the Congress—As to the Argument of their domestics being left without white men, they certainly are in the predicament with every other Parish or District on field or muster days; and you certainly will allow that when they are in a body they are more safe and ready to march to Puryburg Neck or any other part where an Insurrection may be apprehended—

I do assure you I would by no means discourage Volunteer Companies as I know it excites an Emulation to excell, which must have a good effect, and induces them to put themselves into our Uniform, and provide themselves with the best Arms they can—

I wrote to each Captain in my Regiment acquainting them with resolution of the Congress, promoting Volunteer Companies, and order them to make it known to the Men under their Command—which has in some measure been complied with, as a very good Volunteer Company is nearly compleated on St Helena Island, in a few days I expect to receive their List, when I shall review them, and apply for Commission agreeable to the resolution of the Congress—

I can with pleasure inform you that our troubles will at least have one good effect in the lower part of this County as the men are in constant training they are at present upon a footing with any Militia in the Province, and I have procured them an exceeding good Drill, and you may be assured that nothing on my part shall be left undone to have them as compleat as possible—

In your favor of the 3rd Inst^t ; you are pleased to say, that the Report of my being censured by the Council of Safety, was groundless—give me leave to say, I do think 'twas sufficient to make any man of feeling uneasy, and I was not singular in my opinion, as people here in general

thought me ill used, which I make no doubt proceeded from misrepresentation, and although I would not condescend to tax Captain Joyner, (the Person who was suspected) before I had related to you the manner of the Powder being left here, and requesting the favor of you to acquaint me, who the ungenerous Person was that presumed to make so free with my Conduct, but as Captain Joyner has declared to one of my Officers who spoke to him on the subject that he was innocent of the matter—give me occasion once more to repeat my requisition, and I shall take it as a singular favor if you will let me know as much as you conveniently can, being fully convinced I have been unfairly dealt with in some representation. if not with regard to the Powder, or I flatter myself the Council of Safety would not have encouraged Joyner or Teabout to raise an Artillery Company on this Island which must be taken from the Militia, and their view or expectation is to have that Company under their command entirely exclusive of me—

As the Council of Safety is so far distant from this County, cannot know its circumstances and situation so well as I do, imagine they would not take a step of that sort without knowing my opinion as they must be fully convinced that I am actuated by no other motive than the good of my Country; and hope they will not be misled by two Men who are of no influence or consequence in this County or even in this Town where they are best known—this is not only my opinion but that of the principal Gentlemen of this place to who I have communicated my sentiments on the subject of an Artillery Company—

As a proof of Mr Joyners influence and conduct on the expedition he was sent to take the Powder from Maitland, you may form some Idea, when I tell you that some days after my return from Charles Town I accidentall fell in here, where I heard that a Canoe had come up from the camp at Bloody point, bringing an Account that Joyner, had but fifteen men, six of which were the Provincial Recruits left at the

Camp by Captain Barnwell, and I judging it expedient did send Captain John Bull with upwards of twenty Volunteers, who staid with Joyner and assisted in taking the Powder, and had he applied as he should have done to me, I could with the same ease have sent him Two Hundred men or more if necessary—

I do not mean to claim any merit on my part, or depreciate *Mr. Joyner* in your esteem but to show you that he is a man of no influence, and that a command of the sail he expects, will be taking him entirely out of his Element—In his own sphere I would give him the preference of a Command to any man in this County—

You may perhaps be a little surprised to find 400 lb of Powder being again left here, which was mention'd to me, tho' I approved of the Scheme, knowing the necessities of the People, to avoid *Censure* I declined to have anything to do with it—I have the honor to be Sir

Henry Laurens Esq^r Your most Obedient servant
President of the Council of Safety— Stepⁿ Bull

Endorsed: Stephen Bull Esq—19 Aug.

Answ^d 23 Sept^r 1775

[68.]

[ANDREW POSTELL TO THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY.]

Addressed: To
The Honourable Gentlemen of the
Council of Safety—
at
Charles Town

Prince Will^{ms} Parish Granville
County

To the Honourable Gentlemen the Council of Safety for the
Province of S^c. Carolina, at Ch^s. Town

Agreeable to the resolves of the Honourable Gentlemen of

the Provincial Congress—do now Petition your Honours for Commissions, for a Troop of Horse now raised in the Parish & County above writ'en—By a number of Gentlemen (say Thirty) they were pleased to Elect me as their Captain—Mr. Henry DeSaussure Lieutenant & Mr. Thom^s. DeSaussure Cornet—and as soon as we have Commissions your Honours may depend on our readiness at the shortest notice to defend the Liberties of our Country—Your attention & speedy Compliance to your Humble Petitioners desire, will Oblige Gentlemen

Your Very Hble Serv^t

20th Septembr. 1775

Andrew Postell

Endorsed: Andrew Postell 20th
 Sept^r 1775—Rec^d 23^d
 Commissions signed
 & delivered to Mess^{rs}
 Gee & Gray
 26 Septem 1775.⁵⁴

[69.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO COL. STEPHEN BULL.]

Charles Town. 23. Septem 1775

Sir. —

From various causes an answer to your several favours of the 18. 19. 20 & 24th Ult^o has been long delayed—but not from any designed neglect.

Your intimations of the difficulty which you were under & of the apparent necessity for compelling some men in your Regiment to perform that Duty which all owe to their Country induced us first to put forth a Declaration calculated for that purpose as well as for Regulating the Militia in general, which we flattered our selves would have had all the

⁵⁴ From the private collection of A. S. Salley, Jr. See *The Sunday News*, Charleston, S. C., March 12, 1899.

salutary effects which you wished for, so far were we from apprehending that offence would be given by such a measure to any of the Inhabitants of Country or Town except to such as we had in view whose murmurs are never to be regarded. but our order had not been made public 48 Hours before we were alarmed by accounts of a general dissatisfaction among the very people in Charles Town whom we had meant to relieve from an unequal & excessive share of the Duty of Nightly Guards the 12. alert active Volunteer Companies, these by certain Delegates after a public meeting presented an Address & Remonstrance to this Board & a petition to the General Committee. Copies of both, together with Copies of Reports on each by the Respective Committees appointed by us & by the General Commee. you will receive herewith to which we beg leave to refer you—We cannot tell yet what effect these Reports will have on the minds of the Remonstrants & Petitioners, but should they continue refractory, we fear advantages will be taken of the ill example by the disaffected throughout the Colony, of which Class we believe there are more within this Metropolis than without it in proportion to numbers—We make no doubt of your exerting your Influence on this alarming occasion in order to convince every reasonable man under your Command of the rectitude of our conduct & the necessity which we are all under of submitting to the regulations established by the Congress if we mean to defend the Rights of our Country—if there are any just cause for complaint redress will undoubtedly be granted at the next meeting of the Congress which must be on the 1st December & may be earlier—

This seeming disunion we hope will upon the whole produce very good ends—from apparent evil good will be brought forth we shall learn who are real Associates in their Country's Cause & who only subscribed the paper for temporary or sinister purposes.

We desire to avoid particularly adding to the disagreeable subject of any supposed censure on your conduct for detain-

ing a part of the Public Gun powder being persuaded that your Motives were laudable & we hope you will forget that subject—

We are sorry however to inform you that the whole 1000^l weight detained for your district is an over proportion of the public stock compared with the necessary demands from other parts of the Colony—in these circumstances we have judged it an indispensable duty, that we should further expostulate with our friends in Georgia before we part with the twenty Barrels detained for them at Beaufort—

The Governor continues on board the Tamar we are told that Moses Kirkland is gone to St Augustine by sea & last night the Officers of the Tamar seized a schooner belonging to Messrs Stone & Duval under pretence that she had War-like stores on board because part of her Balast was Iron shot which the Owners had made use of for that purpose in the present & a former Vessel for many years past—Our difficulties seem to be increasing at this unlucky juncture when our friends & those whom we supposed to be with us are splitting into factions & withdrawing their hands from the public service—nevertheless we must struggle on & as our Cause is good still strive to surmount every obstacle & we shall get safely through—

By order of the Council of Safety

Ste—Bull Esq^r Coll^o of the Granville County Regiment at
Sheldon

Endorsed: Copy 23^d Septem
1775.

To Coll^o Bull

[*To be continued in the next number of this Magazine.*]